

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently amended) A computer system comprising:

a processor coupled to a memory comprising instructions to configure the processor to:

~~reducing earnings volatility in a derivative account pursuant to Financial Standards Accounting Board Statement Number 133 (FAS 133), the instructions further comprising instructions to cause the processor to:~~

determine a first sensitivity value of a portfolio to underlying market conditions;

trade in an immunizing instrument having a second sensitivity value substantially equal in magnitude and opposite in value of the first sensitivity value; and

trade in a qualifying instrument having a third sensitivity value substantially equal to the first sensitivity value, thereby reducing earnings volatility in a derivative account, wherein a change in mark-to-market value of the derivative account is accounted for through quarterly earnings.

17. (Currently amended) The system of claim 16 further comprising instructions to

determine the immunizing instrument based on a stored database of ~~FAS 133~~ accounting rules characterizing changes in value of the immunizing instrument as subject to accounting as earnings, and

determine the qualifying instrument based on the stored database of ~~FAS-133~~ accounting rules characterizing changes in value of the qualifying instrument as subject to accountings as other comprehensive income (OCI).

18. (Previously presented) The system of claim 16 wherein the underlying market conditions comprise price and rate conditions.

19. (Previously presented) The system of claim 16 wherein where the first, second and the third sensitivity values comprise notational amount values.

20. (Previously presented) The system of claim 16 wherein where the first, second and the third sensitivity values each comprise composite values and each of said sensitivity values is based on a different plurality of financial instruments.

21. (Previously presented) The system of claim 16 wherein at least one of the sensitivity values is expressed as a schedule of forward notional amounts.

22. (Previously presented) The system of claim 16 wherein the instructions to trade in the immunizing instrument comprise instructions to transact an at-the-market purchase establishing a long position in a first trading instrument.

23. (Previously presented) The system of claim 22 wherein the instructions to trade in the qualifying instrument comprise instructions to transact an at-the-market fixed price sale establishing a short position in a second trading instrument.

24. (Previously presented) The system of claim 23 wherein the first trading instrument comprises a plurality of different constituent financial instruments.

25. (Previously presented) The system of claim 16 wherein the portfolio, the immunizing instrument, and the qualifying instrument are related to a same commodity.